

MINUTES
OF THE
EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
WARRIOR RIVER
Baptist Association.

HELD WITH
LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH.
BLOUNT COUNTY, ALABAMA,
October 6th, 7th and 8th, 1876.

OFFICERS:

Eld. G. B. WADE, Moderator, ... Walnut Grove, Etowah Co.
W. Y. ADAMS, Clerk, ... Gum Spring, Blount Co.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.:
WILLIS AND CHAS. ROBERTS, JOB PRINTERS.
1876.

MINUTES

OF THE

WARRIOR RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

LIBERTY CHURCH, BLOUNT Co., ALA. }
October 6th, 1876. }

The Warrior River Baptist Association met with the above named Church, 11 o'clock, a. m.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. J. C. Shelton from the word "chance," Luke 10: 11. After thirty minutes recess, met in the house, when the body was called to order by Eld. P. M. Musgrove, former moderator. Prayer by P. M. Musgrove.

Read the letters from the various churches. On motion letters from Warrior Creek Church were laid on the table, for further consideration.

Called for petitionary letters.

Elected Eld. G. B. Wade, Moderator and W. Y. Adams, Clerk.

Adopted last year's Order of Business. Read Constitution and Rules of Decorum. Limited speakers to ten minutes.

Invited visiting ministers to seats, V. H. Dean accepted.

Called for correspondence, Elder Wm. McCrary and J. M. Thomas from Sulphur Spring Association came forward and were cordially received.

Appointed committees as follows:—

Devotional—T. Stephens, W. H. Lyons, F. L. Hearn and deacons of Liberty Church. State of Religion—E. P. Mitchell, T. B. Going and W. C. Ward. Documents—P.

M. Musgrove, R. Steele M. F. Cornelius. Sabbath Schools—T. B. Going, J. S. Breasseal and T. W. Jones. Temperance—W. C. Casey, Wm. Boobo and J. Griffin. Missions—J. C. Shelton, James Fields and J. Steward. Finance—W. T. Ellison, Isaac Stephens and J. G. Adams.

On motion a committee of five were appointed to investigate troubles existing in Warrior Creek Church, consisting of the following brethren, viz: R. Steele, F. L. Hearn, T. Stephens, E. K. Head and O. Williams. Prayer by Elder H. C. Reed. Adjourned till Saturday 9 o'clock, a. m.

Saturday morning, Association met pursuant to adjournment; Prayer by Elder J. M. Steward.

On motion a motion of three were appointed to draft resolutions in memory of deceased ministers and deacons, consisting of the following brethren, viz: Elder P. M. Musgrove, Elder James Fields and A. B. Cox.

Appointed union meetings as follows: First District—Mt. Tabor, Friday before Fourth Sabbath in July. Second District—Walnut Grove, Friday before Second Sabbath in August.

Returned correspondence to the following Associations: To Cherokee (Reece's Station), Elders J. C. Shelton, E. P. Mitchell, James Fields, G. B. Wade and Bro. J. P. Griffin. To Canaan, Elders P. M. Musgrove, J. C. Shelton, E. P. Mitchell. Muscle Shoals, Elders James Fields, J. M. Steward, P. M. Musgrove, E. P. Mitchell and brethren A. Adams and J. Murphee. Appointed delegates to the Alabama Baptist State Convention as follows: Elders P. M. Musgrove, G. B. Wade, E. P. Mitchell, H. H. Mitchell, brethren R. J. Towers, J. M. Murphee, T. B. Going and Robt. Steele.

Read and adopted report on Sabbath Schools, with the following amendments: that the Bible be the only text book, that parents meet with their children, and that the statistics of Sabbath Schools be sent up to the Association to be entered upon the minutes. (Appendix A.)

Read and adopted report on Temperance. (B)

Recess for preaching. Preaching by Elder Wm. McCrary.

Renewed call for correspondence, when a letter from Canaan Association was received and her delegate, J. E. Massey welcomed.

Read and adopted report on Missions. (C)

Read and adopted report on State of Religion. (D)

Report on Documents read and adopted. (E)

College Report read and adopted. (F)

Appointed Executive Committee, viz: R. Steele, S. T. Small, T. B. McDonald, W. Y. Adams, W. C. Ward, H. L. Ellison and H. H. Mitchell.

Called for reports of Special Committees: Report of committee on Warrior Creek troubles was read, and not being satisfactory, was recommitted to the committee for further consideration. Prayer by Eld. J. M. Thomas. Adjourned till half past eight o'clock Monday morning.

Sunday morning 9 o'clock, lecture by Elder J. M. Thomas to the young folks. At 11 o'clock, preaching by Elder P. M. Musgrove, to a large and attentive congregation.

Monday morning met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld V. H. Dean. Continued call for reports of Special Committees. Read and adopted report of committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons. (G) Report of committee on Warrior Creek troubles received. On motion the letters were rejected, and the church advised to call a council of brethren; three from each of the following churches: Liberty, Harmony, Walnut Grove and Mt. Pleasant, and to abide by the decision of the same.

Called for Queries and Requests: The query, "Has a church the right to hold in fellowship a member who will not attend the regular Conference Meetings?" was answered in the negative.

The following request was passed: Whereas, there seems to be some difference in Doctrine and Polity among our ministers; And, whereas, Christ has required a oneness in his body; therefore—

Resolved, That our ministers and deacons be requested to hold meetings on Friday before each fifth Sabbath in the year, for consulting on Doctrine, Missions and General Polity.

Appointed first meeting to be held with Mt. Pleasant Church, Friday before Fifth Sabbath in October, 1876.

Elected Elder P. M. Musgrove to preach next Introduc-

tory Sermon, G. B. Wade, alternate; and T. B. Going to write Circular Letter.

Received and adopted report on Finance, \$23 05. (H.)

Clerk to superintend the printing and distribution of minutes.

Resolved, That we return our thanks to God for His preserving care, and also to the brethren and friends for their hospitality to us during the present session.

On motion adjourned to meet with Friendship Church, Marshall county, Friday before Second Sabbath in October, 1877. Prayer by Elder P. M. Musgrove.

G. B. WADE, Moderator.

W. Y. ADAMS, Clerk.

APPENDIX.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.—(A)

Your committee beg leave to report, that from the different churches we see but five Sabbath Schools reported. Hopewell, Walnut Grove, Beach Spring, Bristoe's Creek, and Liberty have flourishing schools. They have been attended with great success, even to the conversion of many of the students, who date their first awakening to impressions received in Sabbath School. We would, therefore, most earnestly urge deacons of the various churches within the bounds of Warrior River Association, to go forward in the discharge of their duties, as regards the organization of Sabbath Schools in their respective churches.

We hope, therefore, that ere this body meets again every church in the Association will have engaged heartily in this great and grand work, and that flourishing schools will be reported at our next session. Respectfully submitted,

T. B. GOING, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE.—(B)

We, your committee on Temperance, beg leave to report that intemperance has caused more suffering and death than any other evil, yea, perhaps more than all others combined.

We would therefore exhort our brethren, to propagate a principle of reformation, and in order to promulgate this principle, we would admonish our brethren to discountenance the making, selling, buying or drinking of intoxicating liquors, otherwise than for medical use. Finally, brethren, be temperate in all things.

Respectfully submitted, W. L. CASEY, Ch'n.

MISSIONS.—(C)

We, your committee on Missions, beg leave to report that there has been nothing done in the past Associational Year in the way of preaching in destitute places except the voluntary labors of the pastors of the different churches.

Dear brethren, we know of no practical plan to supply preaching in this Association, except that we recommend that each zealous, industrious minister in the bounds of our Association take charge of a few churches attend them monthly, as best they can, giving every fifth Sabbath and all spare time they can, after crops are laid by, to destitute places—exhorting the churches they attend, and deacons of the same as the support of the Gospel and ministry—giving them plain scriptural proofs of their duty. Let the deacons exercise their high calling in collecting contributions to supply table, in order that our ministers may be enabled more and more in preaching the word. Let the churches also encourage their licenciates in preaching the word, at home and abroad, helping them spiritually and temporally as need be; and we hope that Zion will prosper more and more in so doing.

Respectfully submitted, J. C. SHELTON, Ch'n.

STATE OF RELIGION.—(D)

Your committee on State of Religion beg leave to report that from all the information in our possession we are sorry to learn that three of our churches have been dissolved. Brethren this ought not to be. We should endeavor to build up the waste places of Zion.

Religion in some of our churches seems to be rather lan-

guishing, whilst Austin Creek, Rock Spring and Macedonia Churches, we are glad to say, report glorious revivals.

We would say to the ministers and churches, strive to be of the mind of Christ, that his great and glorious cause may prosper more the ensuing year; that many souls may be added to our Redeemers Kingdom. Respectfully submitted,

E. P. MITCHELL, Chairman.

DOCUMENTS.—(E)

We, your committee on Documents, beg leave to report, that having examined the letters from the various churches, we find nothing of importance, except that two churches have asked for the next Association.

We would recommend to clerks of churches to write short and comprehensive letters. We would further recommend this Association to adopt some Baptist paper as an organ of communication. We recommend the "Alabama Baptist," and the "Baptist" as sound Baptist papers, and worthy of patronage. Respectfully submitted,

P. M. MUSGROVE, Ch'n.

COLLEGE REPORT.—(F)

During the last Associational Year there has been no school taught in the college building. The building is not finished for lack of money. Owing to the opposition the enterprise has met with in the Association, it has not succeed so far; nevertheless, we recommended that trustees be appointed as usual, hoping that a more favorable time may come for the prosperity of the College. The following were appointed as a Board of Trustees: P. M. Musgrove, F. L. Hearn, W. Y. Adams, D. L. James, A. Burns, J. H. Berrier, Wm. McHan, W. H. Musgrove and Isaac Edwards. Respectfully submitted,

P. M. MUSGROVE, Pres't Board of Trustees.

DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.—(G)

Your committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons submit the following: That during the past year none of our ministers have died, for which we feel thankful to Almighty God; but we are called to deplore the death of our beloved brother Godfrey Fowler, who was a deacon of Clear Spring Church. He fell asleep in Jesus on — of September, 1876. He was a member of our Association at its organization, and was an able, zealous active member of our

body. He was one of the most profound thinkers in our Association, and his judgment was sought and listened to on all important subjects. Oh! when can his and our lamented brother Harry Cornelius' places be filled. Our brother died in the triumph of that faith in which he lived.

We recommend the following:—

Resolved, That we tender to the family of our deceased brother our heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement, and earnest prayers in their behalf, and that a copy of this report be handed to the family. Respectfully submitted,

P. M. MUSGROVE,	}	Committee.
JAMES FIELDS,		
F. B. COX.		

FINANCE.—(H)

The following contributions were made for the purpose of defraying the expenses of printing minutes:

Walnut Grove, \$1 50; Harmony, \$1 50; Bristoe's Creek, \$1; Austin Creek, \$1 25; Friendship, \$2; Mount Pleasant, \$1 60; Macedonia, \$1 20; Clear Spring, \$1 05; Liberty, \$2 30; White Plains, \$1 05; Bangor 50c.; Pleasant Hill, 60c.; Rock Spring, \$1 30; New Hope, \$1; Roswell Creek, 25c.; Hopewell, 95c.; Mt. Tabor, \$1 75; Mt. High, \$1 25; Beach Spring, \$1. Total, \$23 05.

Respectfully submitted,
W. L. ELLISON, Ch'n.

Received of W. Y. Adams Twenty-Three Dollars for printing 500 copies of these minutes.

W. & C. ROBERTS, Printers.

STATISTICS OF CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Total.	Deceased.	Excluded.	Id'd by Letter.	Restored.	R'd by Letter.	Baptized.	Sub. of Preaching.
Obtained Ministers thus *												
1st District.												
Pleasant Hill.....	John Cox	W H Jett	Bangor	John Murphy,	4	26						
Hopewell	Wm McLean	S T Small	Hanreville.	A Adams,	4	55						
Mt. Tabor.....	James Fields.	W Y Adams	Gum Spring	W Y Adams, J G Adams,	4	45						
White Plains...	P M Musgrove..	John Smith	Bangor	John Smith,	3	73						
Bangor.....	"	F L Hearn	"	P M Musgrove, * F L Hearn,	1	7						
Asotin's Creek..	J G Shelton,	E K Head.	Blountsville	J Paul, E K Head, E M Bowman,	2	28						
Blountsville.....	Destine	Ed N Wood	"	Not Represented.	1	6						
Mt. Pleasant.....	J C Shelton	A J Phillips	Winnville	J C Shelton, * James Fields, * W L Casey,	3	65						
Liberty	G B Wade	J T Stephens.	Chapinport	E P Mitchell, * J T Stephens, R J Towers,	2	49						
Rock Spring.....	Bain and Reed..	W H Lyon.	Guntersville.	W H Lyons, John Conn,	2	82						
Beesh Spring...	Gas Fields	R W Barnard	Oleander	O Williams,	1	37						
Walnut Grove...	G B Wade	M F Cornelius.	Walnut Grove	G B Wade, * H M and M F Cornelius,	4	52						
Harmony	G B Wade	W L Ellison.	"	W L Ellison, T Stephens, T B Going	1	53						
Macedonia	Bain and Reed..	J P Griffin.	Brooksville.	J H Mabry, J Griffin, N C Nicholson.	4	41						
New Hope.....	B Chambers.	J F Miller.	Guntersville.	E Bishop, J F Miller,	4	51						
Bristoe's Creek.	G B Wade	J R Lackey	Aurora.	Rob Steele, J Breussel,	1	26						
Mt. High	H C Reed	W C Ward.	Guntersville	W C Ward,	1	30						
Friendship.....	J C Shelton	L W Jones	Walnut Grove.	L W Jones, Win Roobo,	1	85						
Clear Spring	J Y Bain	J H Moon.	Guntersville.	A B Cox,	3	185						
Roswell Creek...	J M Stewart.	J M Stewart.	Summit.	J M Stewart, *	2	144						
Mt. Carmel.....	J C Shelton	J A Fortenbury	Warrenton	Not Represented	2	27						
Warrior Creek...			Summit	Refused Seats	4	24						
2d District.												